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Attorney Docket No.: 01-611-US

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of
Timmerman et al.

Serial No.: 09/423,572

Filed: November 29, 1999

Title: HEAT-SEALABLE FILTER
MATERIAL WITH BIODEGRAD-
ABLE POLYMERS

Examiner: Cole, E.

Art Unit: 1771

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RESPONSE TO NOTICE OF NON-COMPLIANT AMENDMENT

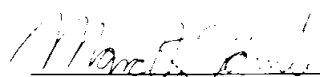
Box Non-Fee Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

This Response is responsive to the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment mailed February 19, 2002 ("Notice"). Accordingly, included herewith for insertion is a clean version of the sole amended claim, Claim 1, as required by the Notice and 37 C.F.R. 1.121.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: March 7, 2002



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1. A heat-sealable multi-ply filter material, comprising: at least one ply containing natural fibers and one ply containing biodegradable, thermoplastic fibers made of a member selected from the group consisting of aliphatic polyesteramides, partially aromatic polyesteramides, aliphatic polyesters, partially aromatic polyesters, aliphatic polyesterurethanes, partially aromatic polyesterurethanes, aliphatic polycarbonate and aliphatic-aromatic polycarbonate; and a second ply, wherein said ply containing natural fibers and said ply containing biodegradable, thermoplastic fibers are connected by interpenetration of said thermoplastic fibers and said natural fibers to form pores.